24th January 1933]

(r) A village court has been constituted under section 6 (1) of the Madras Village Courts Act, 1888, for the group of Kuthankoil and Settimuthu villages.

(s) The village headman of Kuthankoil was the President of the court, as constituted in 1931.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether the Government is aware that while there were two representatives of the Adi-Dravida community in the Panchayat Court as constituted in the past, there are none now? " 11-30 a.m.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am not aware of it. Even if I were, Government cannot help it, because as far as I can remember the Government have no power of nominating any member from the Adi-Dravida community."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" May I know whether the Government propose to appoint members from among the Depressed Classes to the Panchayat Court? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am not aware as I said whether Government have power of nomination to the Panchayat Court. If they have it, I shall consider my hon. Friend's suggestion."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Is the Government aware that no cheries have been included in the jurisdiction of the Panchayat Court as reconstituted and how is it possible for any member of the Adi-Dravida community to be elected to the Panchayat Court as now reconstituted? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" There are some cheries included in the jurisdiction of the Panchayat Court even according to the present notification."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" May I know whether the reconstitution of the Panchayat Court has been injurious to the interests of the depressed classes? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" No, Sir."

Prisons and Prisoners

Quarantine of prisoners received into the Jail.

* 484 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the period for which new prisoners received into the jail are ordinarily kept in quarantine before they are allowed to stay with other prisoners and whether this period was exceeded in the case of Mr. T. P. Alwar of Masulipatam;

(b) the reasons which ordinarily govern transfer of prisoners from one jail to another and what those reasons were in the case of Mr. Alwar for his transfer to Bellary Jail;

(c) how long he was kept in quarantine in the Bellary Jail and whether he was kept there until the expiry of the term of sentence;

[24th January 1933

(*d*) the amount of fine, if any, imposed on him as part of his sentence and recovered respectively and the date on which he should have been released from the jail, strictly according to rules; and

(*e*) whether he was actually released four days later than the due date and if so, why?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to rule 243 of the Madras Jail Manual.

(*b*) The hon. Member is referred to rules 468 to 472 of the Madras Jail Manual. Convict T. P. Alwar was transferred to the Central Jail, Bellary, on disciplinary grounds.

(*c*) He was confined in the quarantine from 24th April 1932 to 15th October 1932, i.e., throughout the period of his detention in the Central Jail, Bellary.

(*d*) The answer to the first part is Rs. 200 and Rs. 64 respectively, and the answer to the second part is 11th October 1932.

(*e*) He was released on 15th October 1932 as intimation of the fact of recovery of the sum of Rs. 64 was received by the Jail Superintendent only on that date.

Payment of passage money by Palempadiyan Aydroo, a Mappilla prisoner, for his return journey.

*485 *Q.*—B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Palempadiyan Aydroo, a Mappilla, convicted of offence connected with the Malabar rebellion of 1921 was forced to remain in the Andamans for four years after the expiry of his term of imprisonment owing to his inability to pay the debts due to the Government;

(*b*) whether his family was taken to the Andamans according to the Andaman Colonization Scheme at Government expense;

(*c*) what the amount advanced to him under the scheme was;

(*d*) what amount he owed to the Government on the expiry of his term;

(*e*) whether he represented to the authorities at the Andamans that he was unable to pay the debts and that he should be permitted to go back to Malabar without paying such debts;

(*f*) if so, whether he was given such permission;

(*g*) whether he requested the authorities at the Andamans to give free passage to his family to be taken back to Malabar with him and what the order of the authorities was;

(*h*) whether it is a fact that he was permitted to leave the Andamans only on his discharging the whole debt due to the Government; and

(*i*) whether it is a fact that he was not provided by the Government with free passage either for himself or for his family on his leaving the Andamans and that he had to find funds for the passage for himself and his family?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*i*) The information has been called for.